



# TOWN OF FAIRFAX

## STAFF REPORT

### April 6, 2016

**TO:** Mayor and Town Council

**FROM:** Garrett Toy, Town Manager 

**SUBJECT:** Approve the submittal of a grant application to the County of Marin for an Age Friendly Marin Mini-Grant of \$5,000

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#### RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Authorize the Town Manager and Mayor to do everything necessary and appropriate to:
  - a) Submit an application packet to the County of Marin for an Age Friendly Marin Mini-Grant of \$5,000,
  - b) Commit the \$5,000 in matching funds, and
  - c) Authorize staff to accept the grant if awarded.
- 2) Appropriate \$10,000 to the Recreation and Community Services Department budget (Fund 01-621)

#### DISCUSSION

The County of Marin is offering the Age-Friendly Marin Mini-Grant Program (Grant) to support local governments and their community partners to undertake planning activities that will result in local age-friendly action plans, implementation, and evaluation activities. Age-Friendly Marin grants range from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and have a \$1 for \$1 cash match requirement. Applicants are only eligible for one year of funding.

The Town of Fairfax was officially designated by the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network of Age Friendly Cities & Communities as an "age friendly community" in March 2015. Since that time, the Town's ad-hoc Age Friendly Fairfax Task Force (AFFTF) has been assessing, planning, and implementing senior activities under the auspices of our Parks and Recreation Commission.

The Town's Age Friendly Fairfax Task Force (AFFTF) would like to request a Grant for \$5,000 with a \$5,000 match from the Town. Specifically, the funding would allow AFFTF to continue its work in three primary areas:

1. Continue to educate the community about age friendliness and recruit more volunteers to be a part of our task force. This would include the creation of a banner and a promotional mailing to the seniors in Town.
2. Retain a local consultant to assist AFFTF in refining and finalizing the Community Assessment and Action Plan, due to the World Health Organization in February of 2017.
3. Continue to support activities for seniors, especially a closer collaboration with Marin Villages (e.g., membership of low-income seniors in our local Ross Valley Villages).

AFFTF proposes the following preliminary budget:

Age Friendly FF Task Force PR (banner, mailing, fliers)	\$2,000
Consultant for Comm. Assessment & Action Plan Review	\$3,000
Events, Programs, Activities (Marin Villages)	<u>\$5,000</u>
TOTAL	\$10,000

The grant requires a letter of interest describing the status of the municipality's Age-Friendly efforts, the major accomplishments to date, the goals for the next phase of the planning process, and the ways in which funding support will address the grant program's objectives. Supporting documents shall include evidence of cash match and in-kind support, a letter of commitment from the Mayor, a letter of commitment from the Town Manager, and a roster of task force membership.

Staff will work with AFFTF to finalize the grant details and documents including the letters of commitment from the Mayor and staff and budget. Councilmember Weinsoff is a member of the ad-hoc AFFTF and supports the submittal of the grant. Attached is a draft of the letter of interest.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The funding sources are \$5,000 from the grant and \$5,000 from General Fund Reserves. The mid-year budget review estimates the Town will end the year with approximately \$360,000 in additional budget reserves.

**ATTACHMENT**

Letter of Interest

***Letter of Interest from the Town of Fairfax for MCF-Marlin County  
Joint Fund Age-Friendly Marin Mini-Grant Program 3.6.16***

The Town of Fairfax was delighted to become a part of the Global Network of Age Friendly Cities & Communities in February of 2015. Our Age Friendly Fairfax Task Force (AFFTF) formed shortly thereafter and being well-supported by our Town Council, we eagerly began our assessing, planning and implementing of activities under the auspices of our Parks and Recreation Commission. Over the last year, we have been meeting monthly and making good progress.

Our accomplishments to date include:

- ✓ A draft of our Community Assessment based on: 1) interviews with key local constituents including Town Council, staff and community members; 2) in depth discussions by the Task Force; and 3) initial analysis of town and County reports about the status of the services and needs for seniors
- ✓ A preliminary Action Plan which details activities carried out to date and many planned for the near future, including:
  - The initiation of free recreational classes for seniors—most popular is our yoga class, now offered twice weekly
  - Participation in the annual summer Fairfax Parade and Festival, and tabling at the Ecofest at the Fairfax Pavilion
  - Tabling and networking at the Streets for People Festival held in August
  - Hosting our first Senior Saturday Social & Age Friendly Fair at the Fairfax Women’s Club with many vendors, live music and refreshments in September
  - Tabling and community outreach at the December Holiday Crafts Faire
  - Mapping of the park benches and water fountains that are available to all walking around our downtown
  - On-going involvement with the Claus Circle Neighborhood Group as they work with the Town to re-invigorate their local park to include age-friendliness
- ✓ Regular reports during Public Comments at our Town Council meetings on our status and activities

The Town of Fairfax and the Age Friendly Task Force are seeking grant funds for our work in three primary areas. First, we want to continue to educate our community about age friendliness and recruit more volunteers to be a part of our task force. We’d like to create a banner and also consider a promotional mailing to the seniors in our town. Second, we would like to draw on the expertise of a local

consultant to assist us in refining and finalizing our Community Assessment and our Action Plan, due to the World Health Organization in February of 2017. And finally, over the next year, there are a number of activities for seniors we'd like to continue to support, in particular, a closer collaboration with Marin Villages. We hope to use some of the funds to publicize the village movement in our community and also monetarily support the membership of low-income seniors in our local Ross Valley Villages. We are committed to enhancing healthy and active aging for our deeply loved town and its older adults.

Attached are:

- ✓ Evidence of cash match and in-kind support
- ✓ A letter of commitment from Mayor Renee Goddard
- ✓ A letter of commitment from the Town Administrator

The Age Friendly Fairfax Task Force members include:

- Jody Timms, Town of Fairfax Representative, Commission on Aging
- Anne Mannes, Recreation and Community Services Manager—Programs
- Francie Bedinger, District Two Representative, Commission on Aging
- Chris Bertocchi, Community member
- Denise Ferry, Community member
- Helen Fauss, Community Member
- David Weinsoff, Former Mayor and current Town Council member
- Tim Heth, Community member
- Malcolm Campbell, Community member